

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



September 29, 2005

## REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NUMBER 05-13

TO: COUNTY REFUGEE COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: FINAL ALLOCATIONS - REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SOCIAL SERVICES  
PROGRAM - FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2005

The Final Notice of RESS Allocations to States for FFY 2005 was published in the *Federal Register* on September 1, 2005. This letter provides the final allocation of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2005 Refugee Employment and Social Services (RESS) Program funding for California in the amount of \$7,570,827. This amount is made up of \$7,379,496 in standard funds and \$191,331 in Elderly Set-Aside funds. These amounts reflect a decrease of \$590,322 and \$14,923, respectively from the amounts published in the Proposed RESS Notice. The Notice may be accessed on the Funding Opportunities page of the Refugee Programs Bureau's (RPB) web site at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) determines the RESS allocations based on each state's refugee population in proportion to the national population of refugees who have been in the United States (U.S.) three years or less as of October 1, 2004, and adjusted for estimated secondary migration. Following is the funding distribution for California.

Eligible Counties

Counties are eligible to receive RESS funds if they received approximately 500 refugee arrivals during the most recent five-year period. To better reflect the population of new arrivals, who have the most need, the five-year time frame was adjusted from federal fiscal years to the most recent five-year period, which covers June 2000 through May 2005. Using this threshold, 11 counties are eligible for FFY 2005 RESS funds: Alameda, Fresno, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, and Yolo. However, San Diego County is not eligible to receive RESS funding due to the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. Therefore, only 10 counties are eligible for FFY 2005 RESS standard funds.

Although San Diego County did not receive an allocation of standard RESS funds because of the Wilson/Fish Alternative Project, the County will receive funding from the Elderly Set-Aside to provide services to the County's elderly refugee population.

Wilson/Fish Alternative Project

The Wilson/Fish Alternative Project is operated in San Diego County through Catholic Charities, under direct contract with ORR. The amount of funding for the project, which is \$994,373 for FFY 2005, is determined by ORR and deducted from the State's overall RESS allocation.

#### State Administration

Funds for state administration in the amount of \$957,768 were deducted from the state's standard RESS funds. This amount represents 15 percent of the state's standard funds after deducting the Wilson/Fish Project funding. State administration funds were determined without including the Elderly Set-Aside to maximize funding for services to older refugees.

#### Standard RESS Funds

After adjusting the state's allocation to deduct Wilson/Fish Project funding and after setting aside funds for state administrative costs, FFY 2005 RESS standard funds have been allocated to counties according to the number of adult refugees receiving cash assistance in each eligible county who have resided in the U.S. for 60 months or less. State law requires the California Department of Social Services to use this methodology. Data used in the formula was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) Report, dated August 31, 2005. Final allocations are shown in the enclosed spreadsheet.

#### Elderly Set-Aside

California's RESS allocation includes \$191,331 in set-aside funds to provide citizenship and naturalization services to the state's older refugee population. ORR's definition of older refugees is those who are age 60 years or older. The RPB prepared counties' final allocations based on the number of refugees who are age 60 years or older and who were receiving aid per the MEDS Database for August 2005 (see enclosed spreadsheet, Columns 6-8). Elderly aided data was used to determine allocations since citizenship and naturalization services should be provided to those refugees who may be at risk of losing, or have already lost, their Supplemental Security Income benefits. However, these services should not be limited to those currently on aid.

Should you have questions regarding the final allocations or other information in this letter, please contact Ms. Janet Sandlin, Manager of the Refugee Policy Unit at (916) 654-1246 or via e-mail at [Janet.Sandlin@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Janet.Sandlin@dss.ca.gov), or Ms. Camille Ancona, Analyst, at (916) 653-7785 or via e-mail at [Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov](mailto:Camille.Ancona@dss.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Thuan Nguyen

On September 30, 2005

THUAN NGUYEN, Chief  
Refugee Programs Bureau

Enclosure

c: Cathy Senderling, County Welfare Director's Association

**FINAL REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES (RESS) ALLOCATION  
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2005**

\$	7,379,496	Final FFY 2005 RESS Standard Funds
\$	191,331	Final Elderly Citizenship Set-Aside
\$	7,570,827	Adjusted Final State Allocation
\$	(994,373)	Funding for San Diego Wilson/Fish Project <sup>1</sup>
\$	6,576,454	Adjusted Final State Allocation
\$	(957,768)	State Administrative Funds (15% of Adjusted Final State Allocation minus Set-Aside) <sup>2</sup>
\$	5,618,686	Funds to be Allocated to Counties
\$	5,427,355	Standard Funds
\$	191,331	Set-Aside Funds
\$	5,618,686	

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
County	Allocation Number	STANDARD FUNDS			ELDERLY CITIZENSHIP SET-ASIDE			Total County RESS Allocation (Standard + Set- Aside)	Total County Adminstrative Costs @15% maximum	Total County RESS Services Dollars
		Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. 60 months or less <sup>3</sup>		Final County Standard Funds Allocation	Number of Refugees currently on aid age 60 Years or Older <sup>4</sup>		Final Elderly Set- Aside Allocation			
		Number	% of Total		Number	% of Total				
Alameda	RESS0501	232	3.395%	\$ 184,259	1,878	6.1%	\$ 11,671	\$ 195,930	\$ 29,390	\$ 166,540
Fresno	RESS0502	632	9.249%	\$ 501,976	1,372	4.4%	\$ 8,419	\$ 510,395	\$ 76,559	\$ 433,836
Los Angeles	RESS0503	3,098	45.339%	\$ 2,460,708	10,815	35.0%	\$ 66,966	\$ 2,527,674	\$ 379,151	\$ 2,148,523
Merced	RESS0504	181	2.649%	\$ 143,772	281	0.9%	\$ 1,722	\$ 145,494	\$ 21,824	\$ 123,670
Orange	RESS0505	353	5.166%	\$ 280,377	3,593	11.6%	\$ 22,194	\$ 302,571	\$ 45,386	\$ 257,185
Sacramento	RESS0506	1,768	25.874%	\$ 1,404,274	4,003	12.9%	\$ 24,682	\$ 1,428,956	\$ 214,343	\$ 1,214,613
San Diego	RESS0507	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,695	8.7%	\$ 16,646	\$ 16,646	\$ 2,497	\$ 14,149
San Francisco	RESS0508	94	1.376%	\$ 74,680	2,523	8.2%	\$ 15,689	\$ 90,369	\$ 13,555	\$ 76,814
Santa Clara	RESS0509	267	3.908%	\$ 212,101	3,108	10.1%	\$ 19,324	\$ 231,425	\$ 34,714	\$ 196,711
Stanislaus	RESS0510	91	1.332%	\$ 72,292	340	1.1%	\$ 2,105	\$ 74,397	\$ 11,160	\$ 63,237
Yolo	RESS0511	117	1.712%	\$ 92,916	315	1.0%	\$ 1,913	\$ 94,829	\$ 14,224	\$ 80,605
Total		6,833	100.000%	\$ 5,427,355	30,923	100.0%	\$ 191,331	\$ 5,618,686	\$ 842,803	\$ 4,775,883

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> The allocation for San Diego County is diverted to a Wilson/Fish Alternative Project. The amount of funding for the project has been determined by ORR. San Diego County will receive funding for the Elderly Citizenship Set-Aside only.

<sup>2</sup> State Administrative Funds were calculated using Standard funds only to maximize Elderly Set-Aside funding to the counties. Standard Funds minus Wilson/Fish equals \$6,385,123.

<sup>3</sup> One month data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Report, dated August 31, 2005.

<sup>4</sup> Elderly data from MEDS database for August 2005. Number of refugees currently on aid who are age 60 years or older without regard to time in the U.S.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) No.93.566